S6845-1 A

ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA ALTOONA MSA BEAVER COUNTY PMSA ERIE MSA HARRISBURG-LEBANON-CARLISLE MSA JOHNSTOWN MSA LANCASTER MSA
PHILADELPHIA PMSA PITTSBURGH PMSA READING MSA SCRANTON /WILKES-BARRE MSA SHARON MSA STATE COLLEGE MSA WILLIAMSPORT MSA YORK MSA

ISSUED: June 1992

PENNSYLVANIA'S LABOR FORCE

..... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

MAY 1992 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Pennsylvania's joblessness fell in May; the statewide rate of unemployment, seasonally adjusted, dipped 0.1 percentage point to 7.8 percent.**
- **Nonfarm jobs rose seasonally by 25,300 in May to 5,046,300. They were about 63,600 below their level of May 1991.**

In April 1992 . . .

- **Average weekly earnings of production workers in Pennsylvania manufacturing industries rose to $477.50, as the average workweek shrank by 0.2 hour but average hourly pay increased by 8 cents.**
- **The total number of initial claims rose 0.8 percent from March but weeks claimed fell by 17 percent.**
- **About $86 million benefits were paid to emergency unemployment compensation claimants.**
- **Unadjusted unemployment rates rose in 32 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.**
- **All of Pennsylvania's 15 major labor market areas had higher seasonally adjusted unemployment rates than in March, but changes were less than one percentage point.**

Special Interest Topic: 1990 Socio-Economic Data

INSIDE

Current Labor Force Situation.....1

Pennsylvania's Jobs
Employment.....2
Hours And Earnings.....5

Unemployment Compensation.....7

Geographic Unemployment
Counties.....8
Labor Market Areas.....9
Service Delivery Areas.....10

Special Interest Topic.....11

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Robert P. Casey, Governor

Department of Labor and Industry Bureau of Research and Statistics

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Pennsylvania's Labor Force . . . A Monthly Statistical Analysis

is published monthly by the Bureau of Research and Statistics.
Focusing on economic information and analysis, the publication is intended for a variety of users from business leaders, government administrators and planners to the general public.

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO:
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
LABOR AND INDUSTRY BUILDING
SEVENTH AND FORSTER STREETS
HARRISBURG, PA 17121
PHONE: (717) 787-6466

Inquiries can also be directed to Labor Market Analysts located throughout Pennsylvania.

The following is a list of Analysts and the counties they serve.

Analyst	Phone Number	Counties Served
Edward Murray	(215)560-1977 Philadelphia	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia Counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties in NJ
Kenneth Shockley	(215)378-4314 Reading	Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks Counties in PA; Warren County, NJ
James Mowad	(717)963-3443 Scranton	Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wyoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga
Fred Schneider Larry Baugher	(717)771-1299 York	Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Lancaster, Adams, York, Franklin, Fulton
Glenn Lynn	(717)327-3504 Williamsport	Centre, Lycoming, Potter, Juniata, Mifflin, Clinton, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union
William Findley Debra Nicholson	(814)533-2213 Johnstown	Blair, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Clearfield, Jefferson, Huntingdon, Elk, Cameron, Greene
William Ceriani Roberta Wilson	(412)565-5350 Pittsburgh	Beaver, Allegheny, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, Butler, Indiana, Armstrong, Lawrence
Carol Patterson	(814)871-4298 Erie	Erie, Mercer, McKean, Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren

CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

JOBLESSNESS in Pennsylvania fell back a little after April's sharp increase. The statewide seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment dipped to 7.8 percent in May from 7.9 percent in April, but remained above the 7.2 percent rate recorded this March and the 7.4 percent of May 1991. The nation's seasonally adjusted rate rose sharply in May to 7.5 percent from 7.2 percent in April.

Data, made available through the Current Population Survey of households and released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, show May's unemployment in Pennsylvania, adjusted for seasonality, down a modest 6,000 to 464,000. Second only to 470,000 in April, this was the highest number of unemployed since June 1985. Also, second only to 7.9 percent in April, the rate of 7.8 percent was the highest since November 1985. In May 1991, the seasonally adjusted unemployment was 443,000 -- 21,000 below the May 1992 level.

Employment, seasonally adjusted, climbed to 5,510,000, up 41,000 from April's total. This was 2,000 higher than the 5,508,000 figure posted in May 1991, and 43,000 above the recession low of March 1991.

The May figures reflect a continuation of April's trend toward voluntary unemployment, as opposed to job loss. In April, the large jump in unemployment was attributed to workers quitting jobs to search for better jobs and to entrants into the labor force. Very little of the April increase was due to workers losing jobs. May's data show very little change in the total number of unemployed; but detailed data show that improvement in the number of workers on layoff was offset by a jump in the number of unemployed entrants into the labor force. This will likely be the trend through much of the year as the economy improves. A large number of people are working part-time jobs because they could not find full-time jobs during the recession. Many more people, who lost jobs, gave up the search for new jobs and dropped out of the labor force. As the economy improves, employment gains will gradually accommodate these people but will not make rapid improvement to unemployment. Rates of unemployment will remain high despite employment gains.

RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(in thousands)

	MAY 1992	APR. 1992	MAY 1991	CHANGE FROM APR. 1992	CHANGE FROM MAY 1991
Civilian Labor Force	**5,966**	5,915	5,938	51	28
Employment	**5,497**	5,448	5,491	49	6
Unemployment	**469**	467	447	2	22
Rate of Unemp.	**7.9%**	7.9%	7.5%	0.0	0.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
Civilian Labor Force	**5,974**	5,939	5,951	35	23
Employment	**5,510**	5,469	5,508	41	2
Unemployment	**464**	470	443	-6	21
Rate of Unemp.	**7.8%**	7.9%	7.4%	-0.1	0.4

UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

PENNSYLVANIA'S JOBS

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)

	MAY 1992 AP/	APR. 1992 P/	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991	CHANGE FROM MAR. 1992	CHANGE FROM APR. 1991
NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS	5,046.3	5,021.0	4,990.6	5,083.4	30.4	-62.4
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,172.7	1,161.8	1,149.0	1,197.6	12.8	-35.8
Mining	24.3	24.1	23.6	25.4	0.5	-1.3
Construction	196.4	186.4	175.7	199.1	10.7	-12.7
Manufacturing	952.0	951.3	949.7	973.1	1.6	-21.8
Durable Goods	528.2	527.9	525.4	546.9	2.5	-19.0
Lumber and Wood		28.0	27.2	29.2	0.8	-1.2
Furniture and Fixtures		17.5	17.4	18.0	0.1	-0.5
Stone, Clay, and Glass		41.7	40.6	43.2	1.1	-1.5
Primary Metals		81.2	80.7	84.8	0.5	-3.6
Fabricated Metals		80.8	81.0	84.3	-0.2	-3.5
Industrial Machinery		98.6	98.7	104.1	-0.1	-5.5
Electric and Electronic Equipment		73.8	73.8	76.8	0.0	-3.0
Transportation Equipment		49.1	48.8	49.2	0.3	-0.1
Instruments and Related		37.2	37.4	38.1	-0.2	-0.9
Miscellaneous Manufacturing		20.0	19.8	19.2	0.2	0.8
Nondurable Goods	423.8	423.4	424.3	426.2	-0.9	-2.8
Food and Kindred		87.0	87.5	86.7	-0.5	0.3
Textile Mill		26.3	26.0	25.9	0.3	0.4
Apparel and Other Textiles		65.1	65.8	66.0	-0.7	-0.9
Paper and Allied		38.3	38.6	38.9	-0.3	-0.6
Printing and Publishing		82.9	82.7	84.5	0.2	-1.6
Chemicals and Allied		63.0	62.9	63.0	0.1	0.0
Petroleum and Coal		11.1	10.9	11.3	0.2	-0.2
Rubber and Plastics		41.3	41.4	40.8	-0.1	0.5
Leather		7.4	7.5	8.2	-0.1	-0.8
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,872.9	3,858.3	3,840.5	3,885.3	17.8	-27.0
Transportation	156.7	155.6	155.9	157.5	-0.3	-1.9
Public Utilities	104.5	104.7	104.8	105.1	-0.1	-0.4
Communications		51.5	51.6	51.0	-0.1	0.5
Electric, Gas and Sanitary		53.2	53.2	54.1	0.0	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	259.6	259.2	259.1	268.1	0.1	-8.9
Retail Trade	877.7	869.1	863.1	879.3	6.0	-10.2
General Merchandise Stores		105.5	107.0	110.6	-1.5	-5.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	301.3	300.2	299.4	299.6	0.8	0.6
Finance		142.3	141.6	139.5	0.7	2.8
Insurance		116.9	117.8	118.4	-0.9	-1.5
Real Estate		41.0	40.0	41.7	1.0	-0.7
Services	1,465.0	1,460.2	1,447.3	1,455.2	12.9	5.0
Business		193.8	193.8	199.7	0.0	-5.9
Health		502.8	501.9	486.8	0.9	16.0
Hospitals		268.0	267.8	260.1	0.2	7.9
Legal		40.6	40.9	42.0	-0.3	-1.4
Educational		171.2	169.7	169.2	1.5	2.0
Social		113.6	113.2	110.1	0.4	3.5
Other		438.2	427.8	447.4	10.4	-9.2
Government	707.0	709.3	710.9	720.5	-1.6	-11.2
Federal		137.0	136.0	139.2	1.0	-2.2
State		141.2	143.5	157.0	-2.3	-15.8
Local		431.1	431.4	424.3	-0.3	6.8
PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.5	-0.2	0.4

AP/ = Advance preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/ = Preliminary data, used to compute "change from" columns.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

JOBS ROSE for the fourth consecutive month in May to 5,046,300, according to advance preliminary data from the monthly survey of employer payrolls. The 25,300 gain from April involved primarily service-producing jobs, up a net 14,600, as gains especially in retail trade and services offset a seasonal loss in government. Goods-producing jobs rose by 10,900 led by a strong gain in construction. All industries with the exception of services and finance, insurance and real estate shared in the overall 63,600 job loss since May 1991.

JOBS WERE UP in April for the third straight month to 5,021,000. While Pennsylvania enjoyed a March-to-April gain of 30,400 jobs, this gain was only half of seasonal expectations. Jobs in April were down by 62,400 from the recession month of April 1991 and by 147,200 from April 1990.

Although both the goods-producing and service-producing industries posted job gains in April, neither provided their seasonally expected share of new jobs in April.

Jobs in the service-producing sector grew by 17,800 to 3,858,300 in April. Major job gains were posted in services (+12,900) and retail trade (+6,000). However, when comparisons are made based on anticipated activity, about 80 percent of April's shortfall was within the service-producing sector. Half of this service-sector shortfall reflected the recent softening of trade, especially retail trade. While jobs in retail trade in January held up better than anticipated, February's losses exceeded the norm and gains in March and April fell short of expectations. Jobs in retail trade for the three months, February through April, fell short of expectations by 17,000 and by 29,000 from the recession levels of a year ago.

In other service-producing industries, month-to-month job advances in April outpaced declines. Nevertheless, in nearly any industry, performances were below seasonal expectations. This may reflect the sluggish recovery from what has been termed America's first service-sector recession.

Jobs in the goods-producing sector increased by 12,800 since March, largely due to a gain of 10,700 jobs in construction. Again, based on seasonal expectations, the goods-producing sector accounted for 20 percent of April's overall shortfall. Here, the slow recovery in both commercial and residential building caused construction employment to falter a bit. Since March, there was very little change in any manufacturing industry.

Jobs in the goods-producing industries this April were 35,800 fewer than in April 1991. About two-thirds of this difference was in manufacturing, particularly durable goods. Jobs in durable goods, total manufacturing and the overall goods-producing sector were at the lowest April level on record.

By historical standards, nondurable goods fared even worse. At 423,400 in April, nondurable goods posted their all-time low. This was down about one-third from the record high reached 20 years ago.

The department's job count excludes farm workers, domestic workers, unpaid family workers, and the self-employed.

EMPLOYERS

Looking for workers for employee training that's specific to your business? Then you're looking for the Pennsylvania Job Center near you; where employers find the employees they need, and workers find the jobs they want.

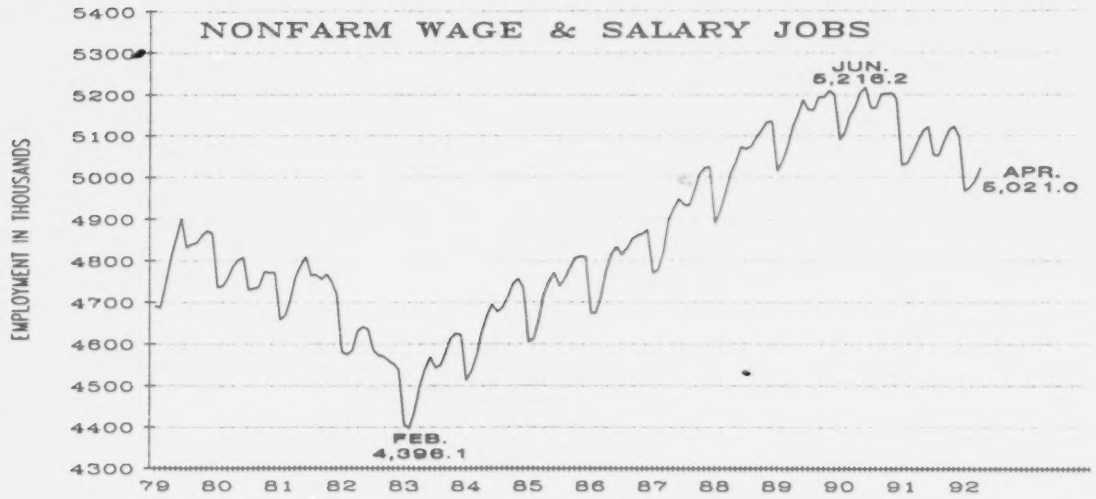
For a working future, this is the place.

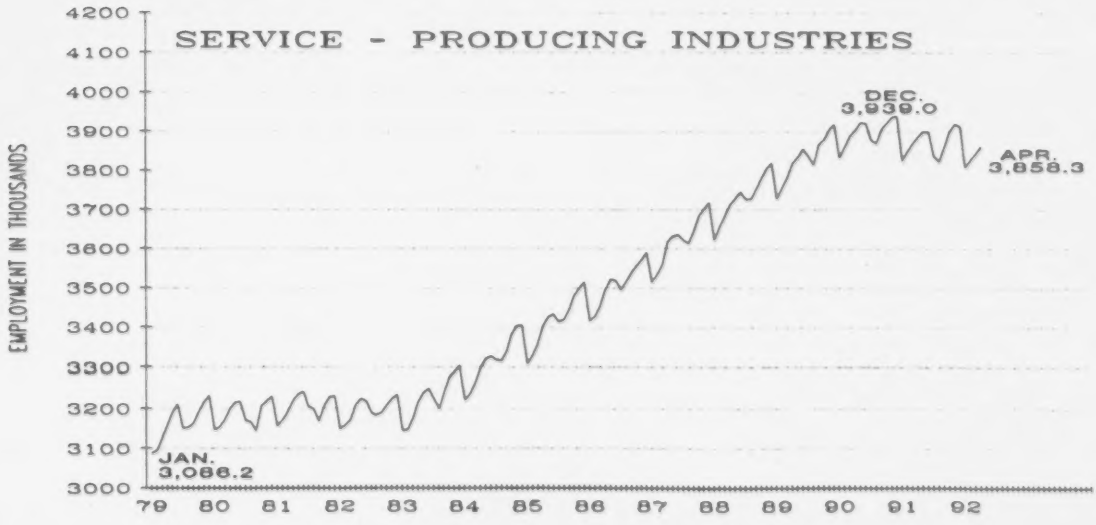
For the Job Center near you call:

1-800-622-JOBS

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT

in Pennsylvania





MONTH AND YEAR

ESTABLISHMENT PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS AND EARNINGS

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	APR. 1992 P/	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991	APR. 1992 P/	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991	APR. 1992 P/	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991
Manufacturing	477.50	476.60	452.92	40.5	40.7	39.8	11.79	11.71	11.38
Durable Goods	518.75	518.75	488.81	41.5	41.7	40.7	12.50	12.44	12.01
Lumber and Wood	377.39	378.97	352.11	39.6	39.6	37.3	9.53	9.57	9.44
Furniture and Fixtures	387.68	384.87	374.81	39.6	39.8	38.6	9.79	9.67	9.71
Stone, Clay, and Glass	506.30	497.33	492.06	41.5	41.0	41.7	12.20	12.13	11.80
Primary Metals	603.54	598.55	546.35	42.0	42.3	40.5	14.37	14.15	13.49
Fabricated Metals	487.21	488.55	455.43	41.5	41.9	40.7	11.74	11.66	11.19
Industrial Machinery	537.63	544.42	523.75	42.5	42.8	41.9	12.65	12.72	12.50
Electric and Electronic Equipment	494.84	495.43	463.09	41.9	42.2	41.2	11.81	11.74	11.24
Transportation Equipment	620.59	612.80	568.80	41.4	41.1	40.0	14.99	14.91	14.22
Instruments and Related	487.20	489.13	470.55	40.6	41.0	40.6	12.00	11.93	11.59
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	483.60	480.39	446.62	40.3	40.2	40.2	12.00	11.95	11.11
Nondurable Goods	425.71	426.21	408.29	39.2	39.5	38.7	10.86	10.79	10.55
Food and Kindred	458.20	461.55	442.91	39.5	40.1	39.3	11.60	11.51	11.27
Textile Mill	332.87	327.32	312.53	39.3	39.2	38.3	8.47	8.35	8.16
Apparel and Other Textiles	241.03	250.28	239.42	33.9	35.5	34.4	7.11	7.05	6.96
Paper and Allied	532.79	513.46	499.73	43.6	42.4	42.1	12.22	12.11	11.87
Printing and Publishing	465.95	473.07	442.64	38.7	39.0	37.8	12.04	12.13	11.71
Chemicals and Allied	589.53	585.74	560.20	42.2	42.2	41.9	13.97	13.88	13.37
Petroleum and Coal	666.67	727.38	727.41	40.8	43.4	44.3	16.34	16.76	16.42
Rubber and Plastics	443.47	435.74	412.09	42.6	42.1	40.6	10.41	10.35	10.15
Leather	283.82	284.93	287.23	37.1	37.1	37.4	7.65	7.68	7.68
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
Communications	625.80	610.59	576.63	40.4	39.7	38.7	15.49	15.38	14.90
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary	757.70	745.50	725.90	43.1	42.6	42.6	17.58	17.50	17.04

P/ = Preliminary data.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

RECORD HOURLY EARNINGS

were paid to Pennsylvania's production workers for the second month in a row. During April, hourly earnings averaged $11.79 -- up 8 cents from March and 41 cents from April 1991.

While April's average workweek declined by 0.2 hour from March, it remained a comfortable one-half hour above the threshold level of 40 hours.

Because the gain in hourly earnings outweighed the small decline in weekly hours, average weekly earnings posted a near record of $477.50 for April, exceeded only by last December's $481.97.

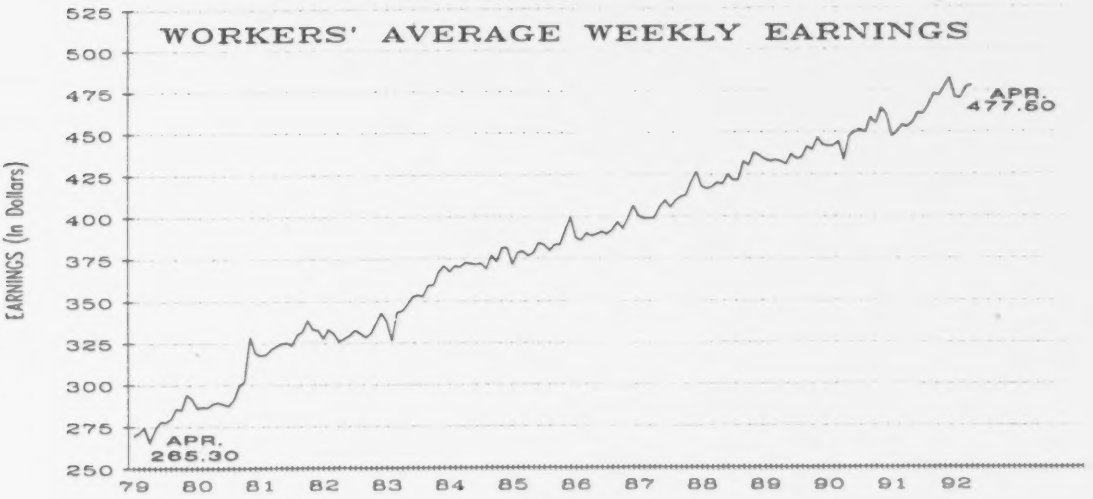
As usual, durable goods industries as a whole exceeded nondurable goods industries in hours worked and pay. But while average durable goods earnings were up 6 cents an hour from March, their workweek dropped slightly to 41.5 hours. Of the 10 durable goods industries, only three showed more hours worked for April. Nevertheless, eight of the 10 had average workweeks that exceeded 40 hours.

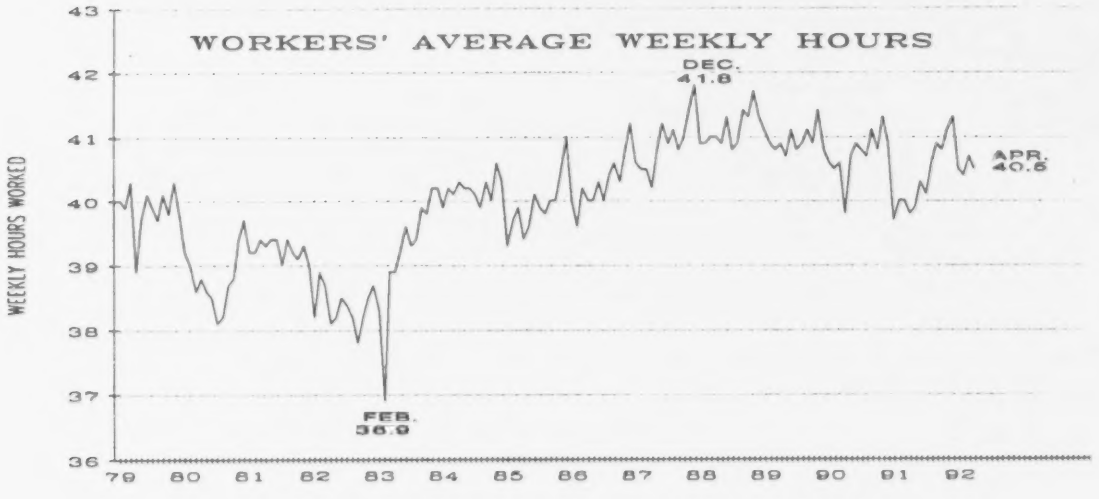
Nondurable goods hourly pay averaged $1.64 less than durable goods in April. And again, for the fourth consecutive month, nondurable goods average hours worked were below 40 hours. However, those averages can be misleading. Six of the nine regularly split into two very dissimilar groups in terms of pay and hours worked. Textile mill products, apparel and leather products pay their employees well below $10 an hour and normally employ them less than 40 hours a week. These two can be paired with lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures. Paper products, chemicals and petroleum and coal, on the other hand, resemble the other eight durable goods industries in terms of long workweeks and high hourly pay.

While these relationships hold true month after month, particular industries can have large relative month-to-month swings. In April, for example, petroleum and coal products showed an average weekly pay drop of about $61, both from March 1992 and April 1991. This was caused by a drop in the average workweek of over 2.5 hours from March and of 3.5 hours from April 1991.

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION

in Pennsylvania





MONTH AND YEAR

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

REGULAR PROGRAM ACTIVITY

	APR. 1992	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991	CHANGE FROM MAR. 1992	CHANGE FROM APR. 1991
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	**107,220**	106,376	115,010	844	-7,790
Weeks Claimed	**928,667**	1,114,767	1,022,139	-186,100	-93,472
...Average Weekly Volume	**211,061**	253,356	232,304	-42,295	-21,243
Insured Unemployment Rate	**4.4%**	5.3%	4.8%	-0.9	-0.4
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	**40,547**	44,726	43,468	-4,179	-2,921
Final Payments	**17,404**	14,794	12,952	2,610	4,452
Weeks Paid	**935,527**	935,895	865,439	-368	70,088
Net Benefit Amount	**$177,221,834**	$174,084,375	$159,253,263	$3,137,459	$17,968,571
Average Check	**$189.44**	$186.01	$184.01	$3.43	$5.43

INITIAL CLAIMS CLIMBED in April by 844 to 107,220, but were 8 percent fewer than a year ago. Weeks claimed, at 928,667, fell to their lowest level in five months, 17 percent below March 1992 and 9 percent under April 1991. This reduced the insured unemployment rate 0.9 percentage point from March to 4.4 percent, the lowest so far of 1992.

First payments fell for the third consecutive month to 40,547, a drop of 9 percent from March and 7 percent from April 1991. Although weeks paid in April at 935,527 mirrored March's 935,895, net benefits jumped $3 million to $177 million as the average weekly check reached a new high of $189.44.

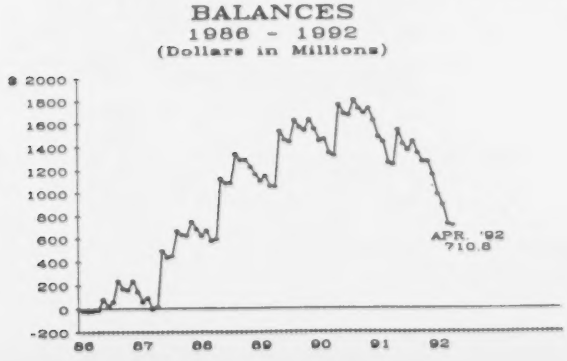
The Unemployment Trust Fund balance declined to $711 million on April 30, 1992 as April disbursements of $177 million exceeded the $162 million in income.

EUC PROGRAM ACTIVITY

	Apr. 1992	Cumulative
First Payments	17,614	153,462
Weeks Comp.	452,369	1,870,621
Benefit Amount	$85,889,654	$356,691,423
Average Check	$190	$191

In April, 17,614 persons received checks for the first time. Net payments totaled $86 million or an average of $190 weekly for Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits. These figures include payments to former federal employees and veterans, as well as to regular UC exhaustees. EUC began November 17 in all states. Pennsylvania EUC claimants can draw up to 33 weeks of benefits. No new EUC claims may be filed after July 4, 1992.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACTIVITY



APRIL 1992		
Income	$	162,494,641
Disbursements	$	177,220,310
Cash Reserves	$	710,766,860

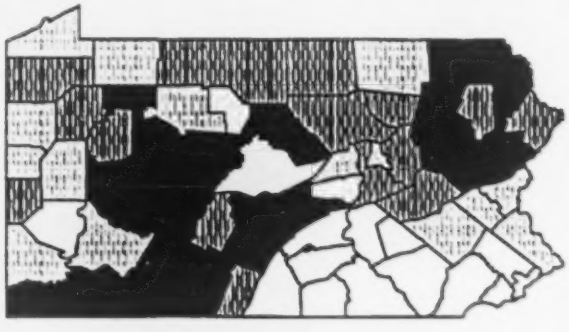
UNEMPLOYMENT ... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

BASICALLY UNCHANGED rates across the board were posted in Pennsylvania's 67 counties in April. Compared to March, 32 counties had higher unemployment rates, 30 had lower rates and five remained unchanged. The number of counties with double-digit rates essentially was unchanged also from March. However, since county rates are not adjusted for seasonality, April can be expected to show an improvement over March. The absence of any such improvement this April suggests a stagnation or worsening of unemployment.

There were no great month-to-month rate changes. Only three of the 32 advancing rates rose by as much as a percentage point. While there were two rate declines of just over two percentage points each, they were in the sparsely populated counties of Tioga and Clinton, and represented declines of only about 400 persons in each.

For the fourth straight month, Cumberland County had the state's lowest unemployment rate at 4.7 percent. However, Lancaster, which was in eighth place in December and January, moved up to second in April with a rate of 5.4 percent. Lancaster County enjoyed an over-the-month pickup in employment of better than 2,000.

For the last five months, Forest, Juniata and Huntingdon Counties have ranked at the bottom with rates consistently in the teens. Forest and Juniata are two of the state's seven counties classed as 100 percent rural, and Huntingdon is the county with the lowest per capita income in the state.



APRIL RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- 4.7 TO 7.5
- 7.6 TO 8.5
- 8.6 TO 10.5
- 10.6 TO 14.7

COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RANKING

	APRIL 1992 P/ RANK	RATE	VOLUME	MARCH RATE	DIFF.
Cumberland	1	4.7	5,200	4.5	0.2
Lancaster	2	5.4	12,400	5.6	-0.2
Chester	3	5.7	11,100	5.3	0.4
Centre	4	5.9	4,100	6.1	-0.2
Dauphin	4	5.9	8,100	5.6	0.3
Lebanon	6	6.1	4,000	6.1	0.0
Montgomery	6	6.1	23,200	5.9	0.2
Allegheny	8	6.4	42,600	6.1	0.3
Delaware	9	6.7	19,300	5.9	0.8
Franklin	10	6.9	4,200	7.0	-0.1
Adams	11	7.0	2,800	6.4	0.6
Perry	11	7.0	1,500	7.7	-0.7
Cameron	13	7.1	200	8.4	-1.3
Snyder	14	7.2	1,400	8.3	-1.1
York	15	7.5	13,700	7.0	0.5
Butler	16	7.6	6,100	7.7	-0.1
Elk	16	7.6	1,300	6.8	0.8
Lehigh	16	7.6	11,600	7.3	0.3
Montour	16	7.6	600	8.1	-0.5
Bradford	20	7.7	2,400	7.8	-0.1
Bucks	20	7.7	22,800	7.3	0.4
Warren	20	7.7	1,800	8.1	-0.4
Berks	23	7.9	13,900	7.2	0.7
Union	23	7.9	1,400	7.9	0.0
Westmoreland	23	7.9	14,200	8.3	-0.4
Northampton	26	8.1	9,700	7.7	0.4
Washington	26	8.1	7,700	8.1	0.0
Erie	28	8.2	11,200	8.2	0.0
Mercer	29	8.3	4,300	7.9	0.4
Lawrence	30	8.7	4,300	8.9	-0.2
Philadelphia	30	8.7	63,000	8.0	0.7
Lycoming	32	8.8	5,200	9.0	-0.2
Tioga	33	8.9	1,700	11.0	-2.1
Columbia	34	9.0	2,800	10.5	-1.5
McKean	35	9.2	2,000	8.4	0.8
Potter	35	9.2	800	9.9	-0.7
Lackawanna	37	9.4	10,300	8.8	0.6
Venango	37	9.4	2,400	9.3	0.1
Fulton	39	9.5	600	9.4	0.1
Sullivan	40	10.0	300	10.8	-0.8
Blair	41	10.1	6,200	9.6	0.5
Northumberland	41	10.1	5,000	10.1	0.0
Crawford	43	10.3	4,100	9.9	0.4
Clarion	44	10.4	1,900	11.1	-0.7
Beaver	45	10.5	6,500	10.6	-0.1
Schuylkill	45	10.5	7,600	9.9	0.6
Pike	47	10.7	1,400	10.5	0.2
Bedford	48	10.9	2,500	11.4	-0.5
Fayette	48	10.9	6,600	11.2	-0.3
Luzerne	48	10.9	17,700	9.6	1.3
Monroe	48	10.9	5,500	10.5	0.4
Susquehanna	48	10.9	2,100	10.5	0.4
Clinton	53	11.0	1,700	13.2	-2.2
Wayne	53	11.0	2,200	11.9	-0.9
Somerset	55	11.2	3,800	11.8	-0.6
Cambria	56	11.3	7,500	10.2	1.1
Wyoming	56	11.3	1,600	12.4	-1.1
Armstrong	58	11.4	3,400	11.9	-0.5
Clearfield	58	11.4	4,000	11.7	-0.3
Jefferson	60	11.5	2,400	11.2	0.3
Greene	61	12.0	1,700	12.2	-0.2
Carbon	62	12.2	3,200	10.9	1.3
Indiana	63	12.6	4,600	12.4	0.2
Mifflin	64	13.7	2,900	12.9	0.8
Huntingdon	65	13.9	2,800	14.8	-0.9
Juniata	66	14.4	1,400	15.0	-0.6
Forest	67	14.7	300	13.9	0.8

P/ = Preliminary data.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA UNEMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)

	APR. 1992 P/ VOLUME	RATE	MAR. 1992 VOLUME	RATE	APR. 1991 VOLUME	RATE
United States	**9,155.0**	**7.2%**	9,242.0	7.3%	8,256.0	6.6%
Pennsylvania	**470.0**	**7.9**	428.0	7.2	410.0	6.9
Labor Market Area						
Allentown-Bethlehem MSA	**27.1**	**7.9**	25.7	7.5	23.7	7.0
Altoona MSA	**6.3**	**10.0**	5.8	9.2	5.8	9.4
Beaver County PMSA	**6.6**	**10.6**	6.4	10.3	5.7	9.4
Erie MSA	**11.2**	**8.1**	11.0	8.0	9.4	6.9
Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle MSA	**19.4**	**5.7**	18.2	5.4	19.2	5.7
Johnstown MSA	**11.3**	**11.1**	10.3	10.2	9.5	9.5
Lancaster MSA	**13.1**	**5.7**	12.7	5.5	12.4	5.4
Philadelphia PMSA	**180.0**	**7.4**	169.8	7.0	155.0	6.3
Pittsburgh PMSA	**70.9**	**7.0**	67.5	6.6	60.9	6.1
Reading MSA	**13.0**	**7.4**	12.0	6.8	12.3	7.0
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	**38.3**	**10.3**	34.7	9.4	31.1	8.5
Sharon MSA	**4.1**	**7.9**	4.0	7.6	4.0	7.6
State College MSA	**4.4**	**6.4**	4.3	6.2	4.4	6.5
Williamsport MSA	**5.1**	**8.5**	5.1	8.4	5.1	8.4
York MSA	**16.3**	**7.2**	14.7	6.5	14.3	6.3

P/ = Preliminary data. **Note: Data are seasonally adjusted.**

PENNSYLVANIA'S RATE of unemployment soared in April to its highest level in more than six years. The Pennsylvania seasonally adjusted rate of 7.9 percent was well above the U.S. rate of 7.2 percent. It was up from March by 0.7 percentage point and was a full percentage point above its recession level of April 1991.

A pickup in unemployment is not unusual at this point of the business cycle, and the rise this month can be explained. Over half of April's month-to-month rise is accounted for by those who were not laid off, but who voluntarily left their jobs. Significant others were entrants into the job market, especially re-entrants resuming their search for work.

All fifteen of Pennsylvania's major labor market areas closely matched the state -- unemployment rates in all rose for the month. This was a complete reversal from March when all fifteen and the state declined. But, just as none of the rates were down by as much as a percentage point in March, none were up by as much as a percentage point in April.

Over the year, thirteen of the major labor market areas had higher unemployment rates than in the recession month of April 1991. At 5.7 percent, unemployment in the Harrisburg Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was unchanged over the year, and at 6.4 percent, the State College MSA was the only major labor market area to show a year-to-year decline, by a modest 0.1 percentage point. Five of the 13 over-the-year rate increases were between one and two percentage points each -- in the Scranton, Johnstown, Altoona, Beaver and Philadelphia areas.

Because of its population, the Philadelphia Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA) normally shows the greatest numerical change of all the labor market areas. For April, the Philadelphia PMSA added about 10,000 to its number of unemployed. While this was about 25 percent of the state's month-to-month gain of 42,000, it was well short of Philadelphia's 38 percent proportion of Pennsylvania's unemployment.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA LABOR FORCE
(in thousands)

SDA NO.	COUNTIES	APRIL 1992 P/ LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME	RATE
01	Erie	137.1	125.9	11.2	8.2
02	Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren	108.8	98.3	10.5	9.6
03	City of Pittsburgh	176.7	164.8	12.0	6.8
04	Allegheny County minus City of Pittsburgh	494.7	464.0	30.7	6.2
05	Beaver	61.6	55.2	6.5	10.5
06	Armstrong, Butler, Indiana	146.1	132.0	14.1	9.6
07	Fayette, Westmoreland	240.2	219.4	20.8	8.7
08	Greene, Washington	109.4	100.1	9.4	8.6
09	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	106.5	95.8	10.7	10.0
10	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset	211.5	188.1	23.4	11.1
11	Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Snyder, Union	234.2	214.6	19.6	8.4
13	Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming	86.6	78.5	8.1	9.4
14	Lackawanna	109.7	99.4	10.3	9.4
15	Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne	110.3	98.0	12.3	11.2
16	Luzerne, Schuylkill	235.1	209.8	25.3	10.8
17	Philadelphia	721.1	658.1	63.0	8.7
18	Bucks	297.1	274.3	22.8	7.7
19	Montgomery	381.3	358.1	23.2	6.1
20	Delaware	286.9	267.6	19.3	6.7
21	Chester	196.4	185.3	11.1	5.7
22	Lehigh, Northampton	271.1	249.9	21.3	7.8
23	Berks	175.7	161.8	13.9	7.9
24	Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry	344.3	324.1	20.2	5.9
25	Lancaster	229.4	217.0	12.4	5.4
26	York	184.0	170.3	13.7	7.5
27	Adams, Franklin	100.8	93.9	7.0	6.9
28	Lawrence, Mercer	100.6	92.0	8.6	8.5
29	Montour, Northumberland	57.4	51.8	5.6	9.7
	PENNSYLVANIA - TOTAL	**5915.0**	**5448.0**	**467.0**	**7.9**

A Service Delivery Area is a geographical planning region defined by the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

P/ = Preliminary data.

Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPIC

1990 CENSUS SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA RELEASED

Pennsylvania had 4,492,958 households in l990 and their 1989 median income was $29,069. About 11 percent of all persons in Pennsylvania lived below the poverty level.

These are some of the highlights gleaned from the statewide 1990 socio-economic Census data recently released by the US Census Bureau. The data, which cover a wide variety of topics such as education, labor force status, occupation, ancestry and housing, were based on responses to an April 1990 Census survey of one in every six households in Pennsylvania. Information on households, income and poverty status is summarized below.

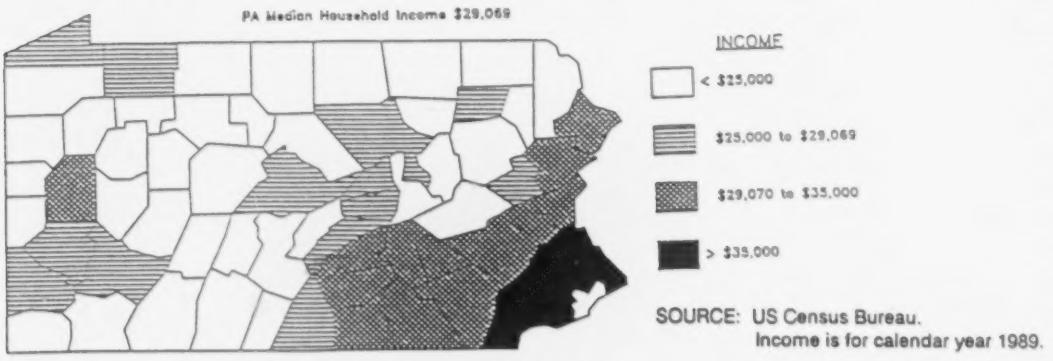
Number and types of households. The 4,492,958 households in 1990 were about 300,000 or six percent more than in 1980. Almost all of this increase was in nonfamily households, which rose by 23 percent to 1,316,507. A nonfamily household is either one person living alone or unrelated persons living together. Family households grew by only one percent to 3,716,451.

Household income. The median household income in calendar year 1989 was $29,069, up only 2.7 percent from the $28,291 of 1979 median adjusted for inflation. The relatively small increase partly reflects the increased proportion of nonfamily households, whose 1989 median income was $15,099 versus $34,856 for family households. As can be seen by the map below, counties with the highest household income are concentrated in the southeastern part of the state and those with the lowest chiefly in the north and west. Medians ranged from $45,642 in Chester County to $19,170 in Forest County.

Of the households, 74 percent in 1989 had income from salaries and wages, 10 percent from nonfarm self-employment, 1.2 percent from farm self-employment, 32 percent from Social Security and 7 percent from public assistance -- proportions close to those of the 1980 Census. (Some households reported income from more than one source.)

Poverty status. Of the over 11 million persons for whom poverty status was measured in 1990, 1,283,629 or 11.1 percent were classed below the poverty level, compared with 10.5 percent in 1980. Of the family households, 259,117 or 8.2 percent had income below poverty levels. This included 137,239 or 28 percent of the female householder families.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



SOURCE: US Census Bureau.
Income is for calendar year 1989.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Research & Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1987) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by number of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by average annual covered employment. Average annual covered employment is estimated until six months after year's end due to a lag in reporting covered employment.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employe contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Administration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

Cash Reserves - Amount of funds available in the State's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits.